

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, DC 20230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10:00 A.M. EDT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2007

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CB07-147, FT-900A (09-07)

Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products September 2007

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary September steel imports were **\$2.0 billion (2.0 million metric tons)** compared to the preliminary August totals of \$2.4 billion (2.3 million metric tons).

The August to September change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected decreases primarily in blooms, billets and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with China and Japan.

The year to date final statistics through August 2007 showed steel imports of 21.6 million metric tons compared to 28.2 million metric tons through August 2006. The largest commodity decreases were in blooms, billets, and slabs; hot rolled sheets; and cold rolled sheets. The largest commodity increase was in line pipe greater than 16 inches in diameter. The largest country decreases were with Russia and Turkey. The largest country increases were with Canada and China.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is November 27, 2007.